

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7645
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS JAKARTA 14569

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, ID

SUBJ: INDOCHINESE REFUGEE BOAT CASES: UPDATE REPORT

1. EMBASSY WISHES TO UPDATE PREVIOUS REPORTS ON INDOCHINESE REFUGEES PRESENT IN INDONESIA. ON OCTOBER 5 FISHING BOAT PQC 090 LANDED AT PONTIANAK, KALIMANTAN BARAT WITH 48 REFUGEES ON BOARD. LOCAL AUTHORITIES ALLOWED THE REFUGEES TO LAND AND THEY ARE PRESENTLY BEING CARED FOR BY INDONESIAN RED CROSS IN PONTIANAK. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH GOI DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND UNHCR REP ON THIS GROUP AND IT APPEARS THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN PONTIANAK AT LEAST UNTIL A DECISION IS MADE AS TO POSSIBLE RESETTLEMENT ELSEWHERE. DFA INFORMED CONOFF TODAY THAT A GOI OFFICIAL AND A UNHCR OFFICIAL WOULD TRAVEL TO PONTIANAK SOME TIME NEXT WEEK TO INTERVIEW THE REFUGEES AND HAVE THEM FILL OUT BACKGROUND INFORMATION QUESTIONAIRES. ONCE THESE ARE IN HAND EMBASSY WILL CONTACT DEPT. RE POSSIBILITY OF U.S. RESETTLEMENT FOR THOSE QUALIFIED.

2. DFA ALSO INFORMED EMBASSY TODAY THAT THERE IS A NEW BOAT OF 63 REFUGEES AT TANJUNG PINANG. THERE ARE NO DETAILS AVAILABLE AND GOI INTENTIONS ARE VAGUE, ALTHOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS GROUP WILL BE MOVED TO PONTIANAK SINCE THERE IS STILL A
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LARGE GROUP OF REFUGEES IN TANJUNG PINANG.

3. EMBASSY IS HOPEFUL OF MOVING THE 74 REFUGEES IN TANJUNG PINANG WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED UNDER THE EPP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. GOI, UNHCR, AND ICEM HAVE WORKED OUT MECHANICS OF PAYMENT FOR TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATIONS BUT A MINOR SNAG HAS OCCURRED SINCE GARUDA AIRLINES HAS A SHORTAGE OF SEATS FROM TANJUNG PINANG TO JAKARTA. DFA IS ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE PRIORITY SEATING FOR REFUGEES AND FAILING THAT WILL LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY OF BRINGING REFUGEES TO JAKARTA BY BOAT. WILL INFORM DEPARTMENT OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS.
NEWSOM

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